



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report

3 January 2012

Top Stories

- A dust storm closed a 20-mile section of Interstate 15 in Idaho December 29, affecting a segment of the interstate north of Idaho Falls that serves an average of 21,500 vehicles a day. – *Reuters* (See item [14](#))
- Researchers claim to have found proof that the Stuxnet and Duqu malware have the same writers, *The Register* reported December 30. Based on the platform and drivers involved, at least three new families of advanced malware may be in circulation. – *The Register* (See item [26](#))

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: LOW, Cyber: LOW

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) - <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *December 29, KRQE 13 Albuquerque* – (New Mexico) **Gas pump tapped for hundreds of gallons.** A Northeast Heights gas station in Albuquerque, New Mexico, said two thieves stole thousands of dollars in gas from one gas pump December 26. For three hours on the night of December 26 the manager of the Texaco on the corner of Lomas and Juan Tabo boulevards said two crooks pilfered hundreds of gallons of gas. “He actually opens the pump up and he removes and tampers with [the] thing that

allows it to flow after the counter has stopped,” a spokesman said. The two came back a second time, and it is the same routine. Finally they came back a third time. The thefts were discovered the next day during a review of the overnight transactions. That is when they checked out the surveillance video. In order to start the pumps the crooks had to use a credit card. A spokesman said the same card was used during all the thefts.
Source: <http://www.krqe.com/dpp/news/crime/gas-pump-tapped-for-hundreds-of-gallons>

2. ***December 29, Associated Press* – (California) Calif. pipeline company charged in 2010 oil spill.** A California pipeline company and several executives have been charged in connection with an oil spill last year in the Port of Los Angeles, prosecutors said December 29. The 61-count complaint accuses Crimson Pipeline Management Inc. and its operators of unlawfully causing and allowing the spill, as well as failing to report the accident to authorities. Among those facing charges are the company president and operations manager. If convicted, the executives could each face up to 36 years in jail and the company could be fined hundreds of thousands of dollars, prosecutors said. Investigators said they became aware of a pipeline breach when oil seeped into a channel during a storm late last year. They gathered samples of the oil and were able to identify a hydrocarbon fingerprint that determined the product came from Crimson. A gash in the pipeline’s casing was found and was wrapped before the carrier pipe was pulled out of the ground in October. More than 1,000 gallons of crude oil and 290,000 gallons of contaminated wastewater have been recovered, authorities said.
Source: http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-505245_162-57349871/calif-pipeline-company-charged-in-2010-oil-spill/
3. ***December 29, Associated Press* – (North Carolina) Audit: N.C. agency rarely fined gas rules violators.** A state agency in North Carolina responsible for checking the safety of propane and other liquefied petroleum (LP) gas facilities rarely fined operators even when they repeatedly violated regulations, according to an audit released December 29. Inspectors for the standards division of the state Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services found 7,466 violations representing potential threats to public health and safety in the year after October 2009, when the agency was authorized to hand out stiffer civil penalties, the audit by State Auditor found. LP gas, primarily propane, can burn or explode if it comes in contact with a spark. The violations included nearly 200 cases in which emergency shutoff valves did not work, the report said. Other violations included gas storage plants that were not locked when unattended, leaks around tanks and pipes, and documentation deficiencies, the report said. Nearly 10 percent of the violations were repeat discoveries of problems that had not been fixed, with some operators having as many as seven repeat violations, the report said.
Source: <http://www.wral.com/news/state/nccapitol/story/10543050/>
4. ***December 29, Glen Falls Post-Star* – (New York) Probe into leak continues.** The New York Department of Environmental Conservation is investigating why employees of the Cumberland Farms store at the center of a December 27 gas leak were not able to shut off the malfunctioning gas pump that leaked hundreds of gallons of gasoline.

Hudson Falls firefighters stopped the leak by shutting off the power at the Main Street store, officials said. At that point, the leak was unabated, with emergency shutoff mechanisms in the pump apparently malfunctioning, officials said. A spokesman said three employees were working at the time, and one “had gone through the procedures to shut the pump off but was unable to shut it off.” The Washington County Public Safety director said it was not known why the store’s staff was unable to shut off the pumps before firefighters arrived and why the pump’s safety features failed. Gasoline vapors from the fuel in the storm drain system caused 20 to 25 explosions underground late December 27, either as the pressure from the fumes built up or because something ignited the vapors. Numerous manhole covers and storm drain covers were blown free, and homes were damaged.

Source: http://poststar.com/news/local/probe-into-leak-continues/article_dc077c74-32a2-11e1-97a4-001871e3ce6c.html

For another story, see item [19](#)

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Chemical Industry Sector

5. *December 29, Nogales International* – (Arizona; International) **Chemical load at port leads to arrest, detour.** A woman from Nogales, Mexico, was detained December 28 by U.S. Customs and Border Protection Officers in Nogales after they discovered five 55-gallon drums of a potential methamphetamine precursor in the back of the van she was driving. The Nogales Fire Department was called to the Mariposa Port of Entry after Customs and Border Protection (CBP) reported a Mexico-bound van carrying barrels of an unknown chemical. It turned out to be monomethylamine, an ingredient used as a component in some pesticides and pharmaceuticals – as well as the illicit manufacturing of meth. The woman was turned over to Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s Homeland Security Investigations and the van bearing Sonora plates and its contents was seized, CBP officials said.

Source: http://www.nogalesinternational.com/news/chemical-load-at-port-leads-to-arrest-detour/article_ea48062e-3260-11e1-a112-0019bb2963f4.html

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

6. *December 30, Associated Press* – (Connecticut) **Feds rap Millstone over failures to win approvals.** Federal regulators said Dominion Resources Inc. failed over the past two years to receive approvals before changing various systems at its Millstone nuclear plant in Waterford, Connecticut. The Day of New London reported December 30 that an audit by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) released December 29 found Millstone officials had an appropriate system for meeting its commitments to federal

regulators, but it was not often followed. The audit said that in 10 cases Dominion misused the process, treating federal requirements as if they were minor commitments. A NRC spokesman said Millstone's actions did not pose a danger to the public. But he said the audit findings were unusual. A Millstone spokesman said Dominion is correcting the problems and that the main issue concerns the failure to file paperwork documenting changes.

Source: <http://washingtonexaminer.com/news/business/2011/12/feds-rap-millstone-over-failures-win-approvals/2046681>

7. ***December 30, WECT 6 Wilmington*** – (North Carolina) **Brunswick Nuclear Plant flagged for possible flooding issue.** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said fuel oil tank rooms that serve the Brunswick Nuclear Plant's emergency diesel generators were not properly protected from possible flooding, WECT 6 Wilmington reported December 30. According to a news release from the NRC, the finding was of "low to moderate safety significance" and will lead to increased inspection of the Southport, North Carolina facility. The NRC release said the violation involved the failure to identify and correct issues in the fuel oil tank rooms that made them more susceptible to flooding during a hurricane. In response to the findings, plant officials have installed new sealant material to close openings on the oil tank rooms and constructed barriers to limit possible wave run-up to the facility.

Source: <http://www.wect.com/story/16417366/brunswick-nuclear-plant-flagged-for-possible-flooding-issue>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

Nothing to report

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

8. ***December 28, Associated Press*** – (Mississippi) **OSHA cites Mississippi shipyard.** The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has cited a Pascagoula, Mississippi shipyard for 50 safety violations and has proposed penalties of \$176,444, the Associated Press reported December 28. OSHA officials said in a news release that the penalties against Huntington Ingalls Industries and five subcontractors come from a June inspection after receiving a complaint about safety hazards. Huntington Ingalls was cited for violations carrying penalties of \$166,300. The violations included blocked exits; tripping and fall hazards; allowing lead, arsenic, and cadmium dust to accumulate in a lunch area; and the dispensing of flammable liquids in improper containers. Five subcontractors were cited for violations that included improper handling of compressed gas cylinders and other safety and electrical hazards. One subcontractor had no monetary penalty. The companies have up to 15 business days to appeal the citations.

Source: http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-505245_162-57349323/osha-cites-mississippi-shipyard/

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Banking and Finance Sector

9. ***December 30, Associated Press*** – (Nevada; International) **Feds: 6 indicted in Internet based car-selling scheme that took in over \$4 million.** A federal grand jury indicted six foreign nationals on charges that they defrauded hundreds of customers out of more than \$4 million in bogus Internet car sales, federal prosecutors said December 29. The 24-count indictment returned December 28 alleges a scheme in which vehicles were offered for sale on legitimate Web sites that deal in auto trading, according to a statement from the U.S. attorney's office. The six defendants — from Germany, Russia, Romania and Latvia — are accused of collecting payments from hundreds of would-be buyers nationwide, siphoning millions of dollars to Europe, and never delivering a vehicle, the indictment said. The alleged leaders of the scam are both in federal custody in Nevada on charges related to bulk cash smuggling. One of the men monitored the fraudulent bank accounts to determine if funds had been deposited, the indictment said. The money was then withdrawn — primarily in cash — and delivered to the leaders. The two then allegedly wired the money from the United States to other countries, mailed the funds in concealed packages to Berlin, or concealed the funds in personal carry-on luggage while traveling to Germany, according to the indictment. At least 110 bank accounts were opened to fraudulently receive the funds, according to the indictment. From September 4, 2007 until October 5, 2010, victims deposited at least \$4 million into the accounts. The defendants face charges including conspiracy to commit bank and wire fraud and money laundering. If convicted, each could face sentences totaling hundreds of years in federal prison.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/feds-6-indicted-in-internet-based-car-selling-scheme-that-took-in-over-4-million/2011/12/30/gIQABzxmPP_story.html

10. ***December 30, Sarasota Herald Tribune*** – (GFlorida) **FDIC files malpractice lawsuit against Icard Merrill Sarasota law firm over First Priority Bank loan.** The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. (FDIC) has filed a malpractice suit against one of Sarasota, Florida's most prominent law firms and one of its senior partners in connection with a \$5.3 million loan made by the now defunct First Priority Bank, the Sarasota Herald-Tribune reported December 29. The FDIC's lawsuit claims an Icard Merrill attorney breached his fiduciary duty by failing to inform First Priority's board of directors that he represented nearly all the parties in a deal to develop the River Meadows property, along the Upper Manatee River. The lawsuit, filed in federal court in Tampa, also claims that he failed to tell First Priority's board that an option to buy a 25-acre parcel of land, which comprised part of the bank's collateral for the loan, did not exist. "As a proximate result of the defendants' wrongful conduct, the bank lost over \$4.596 million," the FDIC concluded in its December 23 lawsuit. Legal action by the FDIC follows a similar lawsuit against Icard Merrill and the attorney filed by six investors, who joined a former Longboat Key businessman in 2005 to develop River Meadows. In

that case, Icard Merrill agreed to pay a \$1.4 million settlement, on the condition that the payment was not an admission of guilt. As First Priority's receiver, the FDIC is now trying to recoup some of the \$72 million lost when it shut down the Bradenton bank in August 2008.

Source: <http://www.heraldtribune.com/article/20111229/ARTICLE/11229521/-1/news?p=all&tc=pgall>

11. ***December 29, U.S. Department of Treasury*** – (International) **Treasury targets key Panama-based money laundering operation linked to Mexican and Colombian drug cartels.** The U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) December 29 designated two Lebanese-Colombian nationals as Specially Designated Narcotics Traffickers (SDNTs) due to their significant role in international money laundering activities involving drug trafficking proceeds. OFAC also designated nine other individuals and 28 entities in Colombia, Panama, Lebanon, and Hong Kong with ties to the men. The December 29 action, taken pursuant to the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act, prohibits U.S. persons from conducting financial or commercial transactions with these entities and individuals and freezes any assets the designees may have under U.S. jurisdiction. “By designating these individuals and companies we are exposing a significant international money laundering network, forcing them out of the international financial system, and undermining their ability to launder drug money through a global support network for the Mexican and Colombian drug cartels,” the director of OFAC said. Treasury took the actions in close coordination with investigations by the Drug Enforcement Administration, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and the New York City Police Department.

Source: <http://www.treasury.gov/press-center/press-releases/Pages/tg1390.aspx>

12. ***December 29, New York Daily News*** – (New York; Virginia) **Dapper Bandit is unmasked: FBI says prolific Manhattan bank robber is Dana Connor, 52.** The “Dapper Bandit” — a natty dresser wanted for robbing 10 New York City banks in recent months — was identified by the feds December 29 as an ex-convict with a distinctive tattoo on his chest. The FBI believes the suspect, who has been locked up previously for knocking over banks, is the crook who likes to look good while he robs. And the FBI says that the bandit — who has the words “Moe Love” tattooed on his chest — may be a commuter: investigators believe he may be living in Virginia and traveling up to New York to commit the heists, which began in September. Dressed in a spiffy suit and tie, he has hit banks from Midtown to Tribeca, and made off with cash every time, authorities said. He generally threatens tellers that he is armed with a weapon, but during one heist he whipped out a black handgun, authorities said. His most recent caper came December 27 at a Citibank branch.

Source: <http://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/dapper-bandit-unmasked-fbi-prolific-manhattan-bank-robber-dana-connor-52-article-1.998609?localLinksEnabled=false>

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Transportation Sector

13. *December 30, Daytona Beach News-Journal* – (Florida) **Traffic on the move along crash site on I-95 in Port Orange.** Traffic was moving smoothly December 30 in the northbound lanes of Interstate 95 near Port Orange, Florida, after they were damaged in a fiery crash early December 29. The roadway reopened shortly after midnight after paving crews patched a 100 foot long stretch of roadway damaged in the chain reaction collision that closed the interstate and killed the driver of one of the four vehicles involved, the Florida Highway Patrol reported. A tractor-trailer rig carrying canisters of methyl bromide, a pesticide, burst into flames after plowing into the wreckage of a log truck, a U.S. Postal Service truck, and a passenger car about 3:25 a.m., the Florida Highway Patrol said. The rumbling of the explosions could be heard for miles, reportedly as far away as Ormond Beach. Repair of the 100-foot stretch of asphalt damaged by the fire was completed about midnight, and the northbound lanes were reopened shortly afterward, a Volusia County dispatch official said. Cleanup and repaving efforts were pushed back several times December 29 after a leak developed from one of the canisters holding the methyl bromide, affecting a crane operator and another person participating in the cleanup efforts, said a Florida Highway Patrol spokeswoman. A fire also redeveloped on the shoulder of the northbound lanes and the trailer used to haul the chemicals also reignited, she said. The driver of the chemical hauler died at the scene while five others were taken to Halifax Health Medical Center in Daytona Beach for treatment of reportedly minor injuries. In addition, the Port Orange's Public Safety director said four Port Orange police officers were taken to the Halifax facility in Port Orange for treatment of chemical inhalation and exposure. He said all seemed alright, but were experiencing some discomfort.

Source: <http://www.news-journalonline.com/news/local/east-volusia/2011/12/30/fiery-chain-reaction-crash-kills-1-closes-i-95-northbound.html>

14. *December 29, Reuters* – (Idaho) **Massive dust storm closes interstate in Idaho.** A dust storm churned by winds of up to 50 miles per hour forced a 20-mile closure of an interstate in Idaho December 29, and highway officials scrambled to divert thousands of motorists near Idaho Falls. Dirt blowing off cropland drastically reduced visibility for much of the day along a portion of Interstate 15, the north-south route that runs from California to Montana and intersects Salt Lake City and Las Vegas. The early morning closure ordered by the Idaho Transportation Department was expected to extend into the evening hours and go into effect again late December 30, when a second Pacific storm front was forecast to unleash high winds. State highway officials said it was rare for a storm this time of year to sweep large clouds of dirt across the Upper Snake River Plain in the high desert of eastern Idaho. “This may be the first time we have ever closed the interstate for a dust storm in December,” a spokesman said. The closure affected a segment of the interstate north of Idaho Falls that serves an average of 21,500 vehicles a day. Motorists were detoured along lesser-trafficked federal highways east of the Snake River.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/sns-rt-us-duststorm-idahotre7bt03w-20111229,0,2858353.story>

15. December 29, Associated Press – (Alaska; International) Alaska volcano sends ash plume into sky. A volcano in Alaska's Aleutian Islands sent up an ash cloud December 29 that prompted scientists to increase the alert level for commercial aircraft traffic. The Alaska Volcano Observatory said satellite images showed Cleveland Volcano had spewed ash 15,000 feet into the air in a cloud that moved east-southeast. The U.S. Geological Survey scientist-in-charge called it a small explosion. "It's not expected to cause a disruption to big international air carriers," he said. But the event drew strong interest from air carriers. "Any time you put an ash cloud up into the atmosphere, the airlines, the air carriers, air freight companies — it's a major concern," he said. The ash cloud was significant enough to raise the alert level from yellow, representing elevated unrest, to orange, representing an increased potential of eruption, or an eruption under way with minor ash emissions or no emissions. Cleveland Mountain is a 5,675-foot peak on uninhabited Chuginadak Island about 940 miles southwest of Anchorage. The Federal Aviation Administration and the airline industry get concerned for trans-Pacific flights when an ash cloud has the potential to exceed the 20,000-foot threshold, as Cleveland Volcano has done in the past.

Source: <http://www.usatoday.com/weather/story/2011-12-29/alaska-volcano-travel/52274100/1>

16. December 29, WPRO 630 AM Providence – (Rhode Island) Freight train derails in East Prov., causes road closure. A freight train derailed in East Providence, Rhode Island, December 29, causing Dexter Road to be closed to traffic for several hours. The derailment happened around 10:30 a.m. at the railroad crossing of Dexter Road and King Phillip Road. One box car and an engine were derailed. The Providence Worcester Railroad company called for a crane to be brought to East Providence from Worcester to correct the situation. The road is the only access to a number of businesses in the industrial park. In addition to the road closure, power to the area had been temporarily shut off as a safety measure. Fire crews, police, and hazmat crews responded to the scene. Hazmat said they were on the scene as a precaution because the train has a diesel engine. The train was carrying lumber, two conductors, and several workers. The train was put back on the tracks and Dexter Road was reopened.

Source: <http://630wpro.com/article.asp?id=2362792>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

17. December 28, KSAZ 10 Phoenix – (Arizona) Smoke bomb found in mail drop off box. A smoke bomb was discovered December 27 inside a mail drop off box in Phoenix. There was a message scrawled on the side of the mail box, but it was not yet clear if it was related to the bomb. Hazmat crews were called to the scene to check out the chemicals and device. There are no leads on who may have placed it there.

Source: <http://www.myfoxphoenix.com/dpp/news/crime/smoke-bomb-found-in-mail-drop-off-box-12282011>

For another story, see item [13](#)

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Agriculture and Food Sector

18. *December 30, Associated Press* – (Massachusetts) **Mass. recalls cheese over possible contamination.** Massachusetts health officials are urging consumers not to eat cheese under the brand Fromagerie Marie Kade because it may be contaminated with potentially fatal listeria, the Associated Press reported December 30. The Canadian-made cheese was sold in markets in Norwood and Worcester, and is stamped with the establishment number 1874. No illnesses have been reported in Massachusetts in connection with the cheese. The state Public Health Department points out that the cheese has not expired, so it may still be in some homes.

Source: <http://www.wvnstv.com/story/16417047/mass-recalls-cheese-over-possible-contamination>

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Water Sector

19. *December 29, Arlington Heights Daily Herald* – (Illinois) **FAA fuel spill in Aurora cleared from Fox River.** Only a faint smell of diesel remained December 29 on the Fox River in Aurora, Illinois, after more than 1,400 gallons of fuel spilled a day earlier into a storm sewer that discharges into the waterway. An Illinois Environmental Protection Agency spokesman said the water in the Fox River no longer has any sheen on it from the fuel. Crews worked through the night December 28 to contain the spill, which originated from a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) facility. FAA officials informed the Aurora Fire Department that between 20 and 100 gallons of fuel had overflowed through the top of a malfunctioning underground fuel storage tank onto the pavement and into a Fox Metro Water District sanitary sewer. Around 10 a.m., however, the FAA informed city officials that the spill was actually between 1,000 and 1,500 gallons and that it had entered a city storm sewer. Crews from the city's fire, water and sewer, and water production departments were immediately dispatched to the scene. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency was also informed of the spill. Absorbent booms were placed at the entrances and exits of the affected storm lines to absorb fuel. An unknown quantity of fuel did flow into the Fox River at Sullivan Road. On December 28 there was an approximately 8-foot-wide sheen on the river's west bank extending for about 1.5 miles. By December 29, the booms were still in place but the river was clear.

Source: <http://www.dailyherald.com/article/20111229/news/712299860/>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

20. *December 29, Associated Press* – (California) **Private medical records breach at Calif. hospital.** A Loma Linda University Medical Center worker has been fired for taking home the private medical records of more than 1,000 patients, the Associated Press reported December 29. A hospital spokeswoman said the records from the Loma Linda, California hospital included birth dates, addresses, medical records numbers, driver's license numbers and, in some cases, Social Security numbers. The records of 1,336 patients or those responsible for paying the patients' bills were breached around December 19. The Riverside Press-Enterprise said the medical center will pay for one year of credit monitoring to determine if there is irregular activity on their accounts. The employee who took home the documents against hospital policy has been fired. The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, the state Public Health Department, and those whose records were involved in the breach have been notified.

Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_19638706

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Government Facilities Sector

21. *December 30, Associated Press* – (Texas) **2 charged in \$918,000 theft from Texas Army Post.** A San Antonio, Texas woman and an unidentified former military member have been charged with selling about \$918,000 in computers and uniforms stolen from Fort Sam Houston, the Associated Press reported December 30. A federal indictment alleges the woman and the ex-service member spent the money on five homes, credit card bills, and other items. They are charged with theft of federal property, aggravated identity theft, conspiracy to launder money, and money laundering. The San Antonio Express News reported that the woman appeared in federal court the week of December 26 and was arrested. Her alleged accomplice is accused of forging paperwork that made the thefts possible. They face a maximum of 20 years in prison if convicted.

Source:

http://www.kbtx.com/home/headlines/2_Charged_in_918000_Theft_from_Texas_Army_Post_136427688.html

22. *December 29, Washington Examiner* – (Maryland) **Flood caused \$14 million in damage to Prince George's government building.** Repairs to the Prince George's County administration building in Maryland will cost between \$14 million and \$15 million, according to county officials, with most of it not covered by the county's insurance policies, the Washington Examiner reported December 29. The home of the county's executive and legislative branches and a host of other county government functions was closed for days in September after 2 feet of flood water caused by Tropical Storm Lee destroyed much of the building's ground floor. Prince George's officials had anticipated coverage of up to \$50 million at the time of the flood, but the building and a nearby warehouse also damaged by rising waters are located in flood zones that lower the county's coverage, a spokesperson said. About \$8 million must be spent to repair 14,000 boxes of documents damaged by the flood. The documents,

mostly records kept by the clerk of the Circuit Court, had been stored in the administration building, as well as the nearby warehouse. The remaining \$7 million to \$8 million will cover the costs of gutting and rebuilding the ground floor, a spokesman said.

Source: <http://washingtonexaminer.com/local/maryland/2011/12/flood-caused-14-million-damage-pg-government-building/2045376>

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Emergency Services Sector

23. ***December 29, WNCN 17 Raleigh – (North Carolina) Ambulance catches fire at Raleigh EMS station.*** A mechanical failure was to blame for a fire December 29 at an EMS station in Raleigh, North Carolina. An ambulance in one of the bays caught fire, which subsequently spread to another building. An incident report said the fire was likely caused by a mechanical failure in the engine compartment of the ambulance. Wake County Communications said the ambulance was heavily damaged and is no longer operational. The ambulance bay had significant roof damage and the living quarters had heavy smoke damage. Damage estimates for the ambulance total \$240,000. EMS crews will work out of an alternate location while the building is weatherproofed and secured. The Wake County General Services Administration is evaluating similar models of County ambulances to ensure safety.

Source: <http://www2.nbc17.com/news/2011/dec/29/2/ambulance-caughts-fire-raleigh-ems-station-ar-1761610/>

24. ***December 29, Associated Press – (Georgia) Prisoner transport bus overturns near Macon, Ga.; several inmates reported injured.*** The Georgia Department of Corrections said several inmates were injured in an accident involving a prisoner transport bus on Interstate 16. Officials said the bus overturned in Twiggs County, Georgia, early December 29. A Georgia State Patrol spokesman said a passenger car cut in front of the bus, causing the driver to take evasive action. He said the bus rolled over on its side. The Department of Corrections said 11 inmates were on the bus that had left the Georgia Diagnostic and Classification Prison in Jackson and was headed to Coastal State Prison in Garden City near Savannah. They said two staff members were on board the bus, and that no other vehicles were involved. Officials say none of the injuries were life-threatening.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/6bbdbcbc9a1e4efea2b72f34f7c8818a/GA--Prison-Bus-Accident/>

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Information Technology Sector

25. *December 30, Softpedia* – (International) **Your smartphone from Amazon has shipped, malware-spreading spam.** Softpedia reported December 30 a malware scam involving an e-mail allegedly sent by Amazon to confirm that an electronic device such as a smartphone has already been paid for with the recipient's credit card. Users who click on the links contained in the message are taken to a Web site that serves a variant of Cridex, especially designed to steal personal and financial information from the computer it lands on, according to Hoax Slayer. Win32/Cridex is usually delivered via spammed malware such as variants of Exploit:JS/Blacole and is programmed to spread to removable drives. Besides banking credentials, it also targets local certificates and it is able to execute files. Once executed, the malicious element drops a copy of the worm as a randomly named file and modifies the registry to make sure it is executed each time the operating system boots. After the dropper is deleted, Cridex injects itself into every running process, even ones that are later created.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Your-Smarhpone-from-Amazon-Has-Shipped-Malware-Spreading-Spam-243839.shtml>
26. *December 30, The Register* – (International) **Kaspersky claims ‘smoking code’ linking Stuxnet and Duqu.** Researchers at Kaspersky Lab claimed to have found proof that the writers of the Stuxnet and Duqu malware are one and the same, and are warning of at least three new families of advanced malware potentially in circulation, The Register reported December 30. The chief security expert at Kaspersky Lab said that researchers had examined drivers used in both Stuxnet and Duqu and concluded that a single team was most likely behind them both, based on the timing of their creation and their methods of interacting with the rest of the malware code. The researcher's data suggests both were built on a common platform, dubbed Tilded because it uses many files beginning with the tilde symbol “~” and the letter “d.” The platform was built around 2007 or later, and was updated in 2010. Kaspersky's director of global research and analysis told Reuters that the platform and drivers involved would indicate five families of malware had been made using the platform already, and that others may be in development. The modularity of the systems makes it easy for the malware writers to adapt their creations to new purposes and techniques.
Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/12/30/kaspersky_stuxnet_duqu_link/
27. *December 29, CNET News* – (International) **Anonymous targets military-gear site in latest holiday hack.** In what it is calling another round of “LulzXmas festivities,” an Anonymous-affiliated hacktivist group December 29 claimed to have stolen customer information from SpecialForces.com, a Web site that sells military gear. The hackers said they breached the SpecialForces.com site months ago, but only just got around to posting the customer data. Even though the site's data was encrypted, they claim to have 14,000 passwords and details for 8,000 credit cards belonging to Special Forces Gear customers. Special Forces Gear's founder confirmed that his company's Web servers were compromised by Anonymous in late August, resulting in a security breach that allowed the hackers to obtain customer usernames, passwords, and possibly encrypted credit card information in some cases. He added that the compromised

passwords were from a backup of a previous version of the Web site that is more than a year old, and that most of the credit card numbers are expired. No evidence of credit card misuse was found, and the site no longer stores customer passwords or credit card information.

Source: http://news.cnet.com/8301-1009_3-57349976-83/anonymous-targets-military-gear-site-in-latest-holiday-hack/?part=rss&subj=latest-news&tag=title

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at sos@us-cert.gov or visit their Web site: <http://www.us-cert.gov>

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Web site: <https://www.it-isac.org>

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Communications Sector

28. *December 30, PC Magazine* – (National) **Verizon attributes 4G LTE service disruptions to ‘growing pains’**. Verizon Wireless December 29 attributed recent service disruptions on its 4G LTE network to “growing pains” associated with building out an advanced network. Verizon’s network has experienced three separate disruptions this month: on December 7, 21, and 28. During those incidents, Verizon said it “proactively moved” customers from 4G LTE to 3G, though for a brief period December 28, “4GLTE customers could not connect to the 3G Network as quickly as we would have liked,” a press release from Verizon said. “Each incident has been different from a technical standpoint,” Verizon said. Verizon’s statement did not go into full detail, but in an interview with GigaOm, the vice president of network engineering for Verizon Wireless said the problems were associated with something known as the IP Multimedia Subsystem (IMS), or Verizon’s service delivery core. As GigaOm explained, IMS has been in use for years, but Verizon is the first to use it for a 4G LTE network. That has produced some problems, like the widespread outage that hit the company’s network back in April. This time around, there were three separate incidents. “The first outage on Dec[ember] 7 was caused by the failure of a back-up communications database,” GigaOm reported. “The second, last week, was the result of an IMS element not responding properly, while [the December 28] outage was caused by two IMS elements not communicating properly.” Essentially, some phones just kept trying to sign in to 4G without success until Verizon forced them to drop down to 3G. Verizon said it is taking a number of steps to prevent similar outages in the future.

Source: <http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2398203,00.asp>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

29. ***December 30, Associated Press – (New York) Man dies in fire at suburban Buffalo motel; reports of explosion before blaze in Clarence.*** Authorities are investigating the cause of a fire at a suburban Buffalo, New York motel that claimed the life of a man who was staying there. The incident occurred December 29 at the Rock Garden Motel, a 17-unit complex about 10 miles east of Buffalo. Reports of an explosion at the motel were also received by dispatchers. Officials say flames were pouring from the front apartment in the complex when firefighters arrived. The body of a man was found in one of the apartments. His name and age have not been released. Five other people staying at the motel got out safely. The building was heavily damaged. The cause of the fire has yet to be determined.
Source:
<http://www.threpublic.com/view/story/504f03d0e3be4b149a40d6caac98b213/NY--Motel-Fatal-Fire/>
30. ***December 30, KBTX 3 Bryan/College Station – (Texas) Texas hotel worker falls in elevator shaft, dies.*** A housekeeper has died after falling six stories in a service elevator shaft in the San Antonio, Texas, hotel where she was working. Federal and state officials are investigating. Her body was found at the bottom of the elevator shaft December 28. The San Antonio Express-News reported December 30 that police were called after hotel employees heard a loud noise from the elevator shaft but could not open the basement elevator doors. Investigators from the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation and Occupational Safety and Health Administration are trying to determine what happened.
Source:
http://www.kbtx.com/state/headlines/Texas_Hotel_Worker_Falls_In_Elevator_Shift_Dies_136431658.html
31. ***December 29, The Plain Dealer – (Ohio) Stolen gas pipes lead to evacuation of six homes, apartment on Cleveland's East Side.*** Six homes and one apartment building in Cleveland, Ohio, were temporarily evacuated December 29 after thieves stole pipes from a home, filling the house with natural gas that leaked into the neighborhood. Police found the back door open after a caller said the house had been entered. Police smelled gas in the kitchen and called the fire department. A Cleveland Fire Department spokesman said a battalion chief entered the home with a meter and found the gas reading was "off the charts." The area was then taped off and Dominion East Ohio Gas was called to shut the gas off. Workers noticed gas pipes had been stolen from the occupied home, where the spokesman said no one was home at the time of the theft. Within two hours, residents were allowed to return to their homes and the apartment building.
Source:
http://blog.cleveland.com/metro/2011/12/six_homes_apartment_temporaril.html
32. ***December 29, Lancaster Intelligencer Journal; Lancaster New Era – (Pennsylvania) 3-alarm fire hits Columbia recycling business.*** A three-alarm fire struck a recycling

business in Columbia, Pennsylvania, December 28, officials said. Units were dispatched shortly after 10 p.m. to Gordon Waste Co. for a fire in the conveyor system. Four people working in the building evacuated safely without injury, the Columbia Borough fire chief said. About 150 firefighter personnel from Lancaster and York counties worked throughout the night. The fire started accidentally because of friction and was contained to an area of about 15,000 square feet. “Workers were cleaning up the facility like they do every day, using Bobcat skid loaders, pushing scrap paper into the recycling compactor,” the Columbia Borough fire chief stated. When the fire was discovered, they tried to knock it down with multiple fire extinguishers, but the blaze quickly grew beyond their control. “There doesn’t appear to be any major structural damage to the building,” a vice president and partner of Gordon Waste stated.

Source: http://lancasteronline.com/article/local/558665_3-alarm-fire-hits-Columbia-recycling-business.html

For more stories, see items [16](#), [33](#), and [34](#)

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

33. ***December 30, CNN – (Pennsylvania) Graves may be exhumed over Pennsylvania sinkhole.*** Officials in Pennsylvania may give the go-ahead to begin the exhumation of graves as a large sinkhole encroaches on a historic Allentown cemetery, CNN reported December 30. A court order has been secured so that the Lehigh County coroner can give the order if he deems such action necessary. The sinkhole measures about 50 feet long and 30 feet wide, according to the Allentown fire chief. About 60 graves in Union and West End Cemetery are threatened and were roped off. A dozen homes nearby were vacated and 25 people evacuated because of the sinkhole. The sinkhole was likely caused by a water main break. The cemetery holds about 20,000 graves, including 714 Civil War veterans, whose graves are located across the cemetery. At least two residential structures nearby suffered serious damage from the sinkhole.

Source: http://www.cnn.com/2011/12/30/us/pennsylvania-sinkhole/index.html?hpt=hp_t3

34. ***December 29, Associated Press; Kansas City Star – (Missouri) Fire engulfs historic Kansas City church.*** A landmark church that is home to one of the oldest congregations in Kansas City, Missouri, has gone up in flames. Firefighters responded December 29 to the massive blaze at the 107-year-old Westport Presbyterian Church at the eastern end of the city’s Westport neighborhood. The Kansas City Star reported firefighters used at least three aerial trucks to battle flames shooting 50 feet in the air. The stone church was built in 1904, although the congregation has been in existence for 175 years.

Source: <http://washingtonexaminer.com/news/2011/12/fire-engulfs-historic-kansas-city-church/2045866>

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Dams Sector

35. *December 28, Glen Falls Post-Star* – (New York) **Fort Ann to receive \$3.48M in Hadlock Pond settlement.** The town of Fort Ann, New York, is expected to receive the \$3.48 million it is owed from the settlement in the Hadlock Pond collapse, the Glen Falls Post-Star reported December 28. Kubricky Construction Co., the builder of the Hadlock Pond dam — which broke in 2005, just months after its completion — has agreed to pay the town, nine months after forging an initial agreement on the terms of the settlement. In 2010, a jury found the company had the largest degree of fault, and the town expected to receive \$3.9 million from three parties: Kubricky; the dam's designer, HTE Engineering Northeast; and the dam's tester, Atlantic Testing Laboratories. Kubricky was due to pay \$3.48 million of that total, but the company's lawyers wanted to absolve the company from future litigation. In November, lawyers for the company and town went to a state Supreme Court justice to seek a decision on a breach of contract claim that was holding up the settlement. The town and company will sign documents guaranteeing the \$3.48 million will be paid, provided several conditions are met, the town attorney said December 28 at a special board meeting. Among those conditions, the town will discontinue legal claims in Albany County court against Kubricky, and Kubricky will stop a breach of contract action against the town. The town will still be able to pursue a bad faith claim against Liberty Mutual insurance company in Albany County Court. Some 90 owners of properties upstream from the dam, who are seeking legal action because of access issues to the pond and declining property values, will retain their rights to continue legal action.

Source: http://poststar.com/news/local/fort-ann-to-receive-m-in-hadlock-pond-settlement/article_9889e32a-31d9-11e1-936d-0019bb2963f4.html

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